

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 079045
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:JSDAVIDOW/HFO
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
S/S-O RCASTRODALE
AF/S-LRMACFARLANE
AF:RMMOOSE
S/P-MASPEIGEL

-----008731 280255Z /63

O 280110Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 079045

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADORS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, UK, PDEV

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: APPROACH TO BRITISH ON NEGOTIATING
STRATEGY

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1297

1. AMBASSADOR BREWSTER SHOULD SEEK A MEETING WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER OWEN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING
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PAGE 02 STATE 079045

POINTS ABOUT THE RHODESIAN NEGOTIATIONS. APPROACH COULD
BE MADE AT A LOWER LEVEL IF OWEN IS UNAVAILABLE TUESDAY.
HOWEVER, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE RECEIVE A BRITISH RESPONSE,
AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.

2. YOU SHOULD DRAW FROM THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN YOUR
PRESENTATION:

--THE FRONT LINE-PATRIOTIC FRONT MEETING IN DAR ES SALAAM DEMONSTRATED THAT IDEA OF FURTHER US/UK TALKS, REFERRED TO IN SHORTHAND AS A RESUMPTION OF MALTA, HAS CLEARLY TAKEN ON A SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE FOR THE AFRICANS BEYOND THE POSSIBLE NEGOTIATING VALUE OF SUCH A MEETING.

--A NEW MALTA IS VIEWED BY THEM AS AN EARNEST OF OUR COMMITMENT TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.

--NYERERE INDICATED IN HIS SUMMARY CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG (REFTEL, WHICH SHOULD BE SHARED WITH BRITISH) THAT THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS BELIEVE PF DIFFERENCES OF OPINION WITH AAP COULD BE TAKEN CARE OF RELATIVELY SIMPLY AND EASILY. (FRONT LINE PERCEPTION MAY, OF COURSE, BE DISTORTED.) NYERERE ALSO NOTED THAT A RESUMPTION OF THE MALTA MEETING MUST PRECEDE ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE, EVEN IF ONLY BY 48 HOURS. OTHERWISE, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE PF WAS JOINING THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT.

--WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD EXPLORE FURTHER THE POSSIBILITY WHICH NYERERE HAS RAISED.

--BOTH SECRETARY VANCE AND SECRETARY OWEN IN THEIR CONVERSATIONS WITH KNOMO AND MUGABE OFFERED THE POSSIBILITY OF STRUCTURING AN ALL PARTIES MEETING IN SUCH A WAY
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(VIA PROXIMITY TALKS, SUBGROUPS, ETC.) TO MEET THE PF'S DEMANDS FOR EXCLUSIVE NATIONALIST NEGOTIATING STATUS ON CERTAIN ISSUES, E.G. CEASEFIRE. THE PF'S INITIAL RESPONSE TO THIS OFFER WAS TO BRUSH IT ASIDE.

--HOWEVER, IT APPEARS TO US THAT THERE MAY NOT BE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR PROPOSAL TO DIVIDE THE MEETING IN TERMS OF PLACE, AND NYERERE'S SUGGESTION TO DIVIDE THE MEETING IN TERMS OF TIME (E.G. MEETING WITH THE PF 48 HOURS BEFORE AN ALL PARTIES MEETING) IN THAT BOTH MAY OFFER A WAY TO MERGE OUR CALL FOR AN ALL-PARTIES MEETING WITH THE PF'S DEMAND FOR SOME SPECIAL RECOGNITION.

--WHILE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE INTERNAL NATIONALISTS ARE PREPARED TO ATTEND ANY MEETING WITHIN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, A US/UK GET-TOGETHER WITH THE PF, IF CLEARLY IDENTIFIED AS A PRELUDE TO AN ALL PARTIES MEETING, MIGHT SERVE OUR INTERESTS BY DEMONSTRATING TO THE FRONT LINE AND OTHERS THAT WE WISH TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM IN OUR NEGOTIATING EFFORT.

--AT THE SAME TIME THE CLEAR IDENTIFICATION OF IT AS A
PRELUDE TO A LARGER ALL-PARTIES MEETING, EVEN IF IT APPEARS
THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD AT THIS TIME BE A REMOTE

POSSIBILITY, WOULD PROTECT US FROM THE DOMESTIC CHARGE OF
SIMPLY TRYING TO TORPEDO THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

--THEREFORE, WE SUGGEST THAT WE APPROACH THE FRONT LINE
WITH THE PROPOSITION THAT THE US AND UK WOULD BE PREPARED
TO RESUME WORKING LEVEL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PF ON THE
SAME ISSUES WHICH WERE DISCUSSED AT MALTA.

--WE WOULD MAKE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH A MEETING (WE
HAVE IN MIND REPRESENTATION AT THE LOW-GRAHAM-CARVER LEVEL)
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WOULD BE PREDICATED UPON THE PF'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE
IDEA OF AN ALL PARTIES MEETING TO FOLLOW IT WHICH
WOULD DISCUSS TRANSITIONAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES.

--WE COULD AT THE SAME TIME OFFER TO HAVE THE SAME GROUP
(I.E. LOW-GRAHAM) MEET WITH THE INTERNAL NATIONALISTS
TO DISCUSS REFINEMENTS TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.
WE WOULD DO SO NOT WITH THE EXPECTATION THAT THE INTERNAL
NATIONALISTS WOULD AGREE AT THIS TIME, BUT RATHER AS A
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--WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN AFFORD TO IGNORE THE DAR ES
SALAAM COMMUNIQUE OR THE POINTS NYERERE HAS MADE,
ESPECIALLY AS THIS DEVELOPMENT COMES ON THE EVE OF
THE PRESIDENT'S DEPARTURE FOR AFRICA. WE SEEK YOUR
AGREEMENT FOR OUR PROPOSED RESPONSE AND YOUR ADVICE
CONCERNING HOW TO PROCEED WITH JOINT ACTION. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 079045 TOSEC 030084
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:AF:WBEDMONDSON
APPROVED BY:AF:WBEDMONDSON
S/S/O:DSUMMERS

-----036649 300911Z /20

O 300804Z MAR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 079045 TOSEC 030084

EXDIS

FOL STATE 079045 SENT ACTION LONDON INFO LUSAKA CAPE TOWN
GABORONE MAPUTO DAR ES SALAAM LAGOS USUN MAR 28, 1978 REPEATED
TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 079045

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SUBJECT: RHODESIA: APPROACH TO BRITISH ON NEGOTIATING
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UNQUOTE COOPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, VIEWS, AMBASSADORS, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE079045
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JS DAVIDOW/HFO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780133-1037
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 DAR ES SALAAM 1297
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3181102
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: APPROACH TO BRITISH ON NEGOTIATING STRATEGY
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, US, (BREWSTER)
To: LONDON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/113cfebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014